

DRO

2. A sluggard; an idler.

He sleeps by day
More than the wild cat: *drones* hive not with me,
Therefore I part with him. *Shakespeare's Merch. of Venice.*
Sit idle on the household hearth
A burd'ous *drone*, to visitants a gaze. *Milton's Agonistes.*
It is my misfortune to be married to a *drone*, who lives
upon what I get, without bringing any thing into the com-
mon flock. *Addison's Spectator, N^o. 211.*
3. The hum, or instrument of humming
To *DRONE*. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To live in idleness; to
dream.

What have I lost by my forefathers fault?
Why, was not I the twentieth by descent
From a long reftive race of *droning* kings? *Dryd. Span. Fry.*
DRONISH. *adj.* [from *drone*.] Idle; sluggish; dreaming;
lazy; indolent; unactive.

The *dronish* monks, the scorn and shame of manhood,
Rouse and prepare once more to take possession,
To nestle in their ancient hives again. *Rowe's Jane Gray.*
To *DRONE*. *v. n.* [*droef*, forrow, Dutch.]

1. To languish with sorrow.
Conceiving the dishonour of his mother,
He straight declin'd, *droop'd*, took it deeply;
Fallen'd, and fix'd the flame on't in himself. *Shakespeare.*
I *drop*, with struggling spirit;
My thoughts are on my sorrows bent. *Sandys.*

2. To faint; to grow weak; to be despirited.
I find my zenith doth depend upon
A most auspicious star; whose influence
If now I court not, but omit, my fortunes
Will ever after *drop*. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*

Good things of day begin to *drop*, and drowie,
Whilenight's black agents to their prey do rowze. *Sh. Macb.*
When, by impulse from heav'n, Tyrtasus sung,
In *drooping* foldiers a new courage sprung. *Rescramen.*

Can flow'rs but *drop* in absence of the sun,
Which wak'd their sweets? and mine, alas! is gone. *Dryd.*
Time seems not now beneath his years to stoop,
Nor do his wings with sickly feathers *drop*. *Dryden.*

When factious rage to cruel exile drove
The queen of beauty and the court of love,
The muses *droop'd* with their forsaken arts. *Dryden.*
I'll animate the foldiers *drooping* courage,
With love of freedom and contempt of life. *Addis. Cato.*

I saw him ten days before he died, and observed he began
very much to *drop* and languish. *Swift.*
3. To sink; to lean downwards.

I never from thy side henceforth must stray,
Where'er our day's work lies; though now enjoin'd
Laborious, 'till day *droop*. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. xi.*
His head, though gay
Carnation, purple, azure, or speck'd with gold,
Hung *drooping*, unsustain'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix.*
On her heav'd bosom hung her *drooping* head,
Which, with a sigh, she rais'd; and this she said. *Pope.*

DROP. *n. f.* [*broppa*, Saxon.]
1. A globule of moisture; as much liquor as falls at once when
there is not a continual stream.

Meet we the medicine of our country's weal,
And with him pour we in our country's purge,
Each *drop* of us. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
Whereas Aristotle tells us, that if a *drop* of wine be put
into ten thousand measures of water, the wine being over-
powered by so vast a quantity of water, will be turned into it:
he speaks, to my apprehension, very improbably. *Boyle.*

Admiring, in the gloomy shade,
Those little *drops* of light. *Waller.*
Had I but known that Sancho was his father,
I would have pour'd a deluge of my blood
To save one *drop* of his. *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*

2. Diamond hanging in the ear.
The *drops* to thee, Brillante, we consign;
And, Momentilla, let the watch be thine. *Pope.*
DROP SERENE. *n. f.* [*gutta serena*, Latin.] A disease of the
eye, proceeding from an inspissation of the humour.
So thick a *drop serene* hath quench'd their orbs,
Or dim suffusion veil'd! *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. iii.*

To *DROP*. *v. a.* [*broppan*, Saxon.]
1. To pour in drops or single globules.
His heavens shall *drop* down dew. *Deut. xxxiii. 28.*
2. To let fall.

Others o'er chimney tops and turrets row,
And *drop* their anchors on the meads below. *Dryden.*
One only hag remain'd:
Against a wither'd oak she lean'd her weight,
Propp'd on her trusty staff, not half upright,
And *dropp'd* an awkward court'ry to the knight. *Dryden.*

St. John himself will scarce forbear
To bite his pen and *drop* a tear;
The rest will give a shrug, and cry,
I'm sorry, but we all must die! *Swift.*

DRO

3. To let go; to dismiss from the hand, or the possession.

Though I could
With barefac'd power sweep him from my sight,
And bid my will avouch it; yet I must not,
For certain friends that are both his and mine,
Whose loves I may not *drop*. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
Those who have assumed visible shapes for a season, can
hardly be reckoned among this order of compounded beings;
because they *drop* their bodies, and divest themselves of those
visible shapes. *Watts's Logic.*

4. To utter slightly or casually.
Drop not thy word against the house of Isaac. *Amos vii. 16.*
5. To insert indirectly, or by way of digression.
St. Paul's epistles contain nothing but points of Christian
instruction, amongst which he seldom fails to *drop* in the great
and distinguishing doctrines of our holy religion. *Locke.*

6. To intermit; to cease.
Where the act is unmanly or immoral, we ought to *drop*
our hopes, or rather never entertain them. *Calter on Despair.*
After having given this judgment in its favour, they sud-
denly *drop* the pursuit. *Sharp's Surgery.*

7. To quit a matter.
I have beat the hoof 'till I have worn out these shoes in
your service, and not one penny left me to buy more; so that
you must even excuse me. if I *drop* you here. *LeStrange.*

8. To let go a dependant, or companion, without farther al-
location.
She drilled him on to five and fifty, and will *drop* him in
his old age, if she can find her account in another. *Addison.*

9. To suffer to vanish, or come to nothing.
They have no sooner fetched themselves up to the fashion
of the polite world, but the town has *dropped* them. *Addison.*
Thus was the fame of our Saviour perpetuated by such re-
cords as would preserve the traditionary account of him to
after-ages, and rectify it, if, by passing through several ge-
nerations, it might *drop* any part that was material. *Addison.*

Opinions, like fashions, always descend from those of qua-
lity to the middle fort, and thence to the vulgar, where they
are *dropped* and vanish. *Swift.*
10. To bedrop; to speckle; to variegate with spots. *Varro*
stellatus corpora guttis.

Or, sporting with quick glance,
Shew to the sun their wad'd coats, *dropp'd* with gold. *Milt.*

To *DROP*. *v. n.*
1. To fall in drops, or single globules.
The quality of mercy is not strain'd;
It *droppeth*, as the gentle rain from heaven,
Upon the place beneath. *Shakespeare. Merchant of Venice.*

2. To let drops fall; to discharge itself in drops.
The heavens *dropp'd* at the presence of God. *Pf. lxviii. 8.*
While cumber'd with my *dropping* cloaths I lay,
The cruel nation, covetous of prey,
Stain'd with my blood th' unhospitable coast. *Dryden's Ann.*

Beneath a rock he sigh'd alone,
And cold Lycæus wept from every *dropping* stone. *Dryden.*
3. To fall; to come from a higher place.
Philosophers conjecture that you *dropp'd* from the moon, or
one of the stars. *Gulliver's Travels.*

In every revolution, approaching nearer and nearer to the
sun, this comet must at last *drop* into the sun's body. *Cheyne.*
4. To fall spontaneously.
So may 't thou live, 'till, like ripe fruit, thou *drop*
Into thy mother's lap; or be with ease
Gather'd, not harshly pluck'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. xi.*

5. To fall in death; to die suddenly.
It was your presumption,
That in the dole of blows your son might *drop*. *Shakespeare.*

6. To die.
Nothing, says Seneca, so soon reconciles us to the thoughts
of our own death, as the prospect of one friend after another
dropping round us. *Digby to Pope.*

7. To sink into silence; to vanish; to come to nothing: a fami-
liar phrase.
Virgil's friends thought fit to let *drop* this incident of Helen.
Addison's Travels.

I heard of threats, occasioned by my verses: I sent to ac-
quaint them where I was to be found, and so it *dropp'd*. *Pope.*
8. To come unexpectedly.
He could never make any figure in company, but by giving
disturbance at his entry; and therefore takes care to *drop* in
when he thinks you are just seated. *Spectator, N^o. 448.*

To *DRIPPING*. *n. f.* [from *drop*.]
1. That which falls in drops.
Thriftly wench scrapes kitchen-stuff,
And barreling the *droppings* and the snuff. *Donne.*

2. That which drops when the continuous stream ceases.
Of wasting candles.
Strain out the last dail *droppings* of your sense,
And rhyme with all the rage of impotence. *Pope's Criticism.*
DROPLET. *n. f.* A little drop.
Thou abhor'd it in us our human griefs, *Scorn'd*

DRO

Scorn'd our brine's flow, and those our *droplets*, which
From niggard nature fall. *Shakespeare's Timon.*
DROPTONE. *n. f.* [*drop and stone*.] Spar formed into the
shape of drops. *Woodward's Foss.*

DROPTWORT. *n. f.* [*drop and wort*.] A plant of various species.
DROPTICAL. *adj.* [from *drop*.] Diseased with a drop; a
hydropical; tending to a drop.

The diet of nephritick and *dropical* persons ought to be
such as is opposite to, and subdueth the alkalescent nature of
the salts in the serum of the blood. *Arbutnot on Aliment.*
DROPTIED. *adj.* [from *drop*.] Diseased with a drop.
Where great addition swells, and virtue none,
It is a *droptied* honour: good alone
Is good. *Shakespeare's All's well that ends well.*

DROPSY. *n. f.* [*hydrops*, Latin; whence anciently *hydropisy*,
thence *dropisy*, *dropy*.] A collection of water in the body,
from too lax a tone of the solids, whereby digestion is
weakened, and all the parts stuffed. *Quincy.*

An anasarca, a species of *dropy*, is an extravasation of
water lodged in the cells of the membrana adiposa. *Sharp.*
DROSS. *n. f.* [*droos*, Saxon.]

1. The recrement or delpumation of metals.
Some scumm'd the *drofs* that from the metal came,
Some stir'd the molten ore with ladles great,
And every one did wink, and every one did sweat. *Fai. Qu.*
Should the mixture of a little *drofs* constrain the church to
deprive herself of so much gold, rather than learn how, by
art and judgment, to make separation of the one from the
other? *Hooker, b. v. f. 20.*

2. Rust; incrustation upon metal.
An emperor, hid under a crust of *drofs*, after cleansing, has
appeared with all his titles fresh and beautiful. *Addis. on Medals.*

3. Refuse; leavings; sweepings; any thing remaining after the
removal of the better part; dreggs; feculence; corruption.
Fate proud, now tell me, why should fair be proud,
Sith all world's glory is but *drofs* unclean;
And in the shade of death itself shall shroud,
However now thereof ye little ween? *Spenser, Sonnet 2.*

That most divine light only shineth on those minds, which
are purged from all worldly *drofs* and human uncleanells. *Ral.*
All treasures and all gain esteem as *drofs*,
And dignities and pow'rs all but the highest. *Milt. Pa. Lost.*
Such precepts exceedingly dispose us to piety and religion,
by purifying our souls from the *drofs* and filth of sensual
delights. *Willson, Sermon 5.*

DROTSINESS. *n. f.* [from *drop*.] Foulness; feculence; rust.
The furnace of affliction refines us from earthly *drotsiness*,
and softens us for the impression of God's stamp. *Boyle.*
DROTSY. *adj.* [from *drofs*.]

1. Full of scoriou or recrementitious parts; full of drofs.
So doth the fire the *drofs* gold refine. *Davies.*
For, by the fire, they emit not only many *drofs* and sco-
rious parts, but whatsoever they had received either from
earth or loadstone. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. i. c. 4.*

2. Worthless; foul; feculent.
Your intention hold,
As fire these *drofs* rhymes to purify,
Or as elixir to change them into gold. *Donne.*

DROTCHEL. *n. f.* [corrupted perhaps from *dretchel*. To dretch,
in *Chaucer*, is to idle, to delay. *Droch*, in *Prifick*, is delay.]
An idle wench; a sluggard. In Scottish it is still used.
DROVE. *n. f.* [from *drive*.]

1. A body or number of cattle: generally used of oxen or black
cattle.
They brought to their stations many *droves* of cattle; and
within a few days were brought out of the country two thou-
sand muttons. *Hayward.*

A Spaniard is unacquainted with our northern *droves*. *Brown.*
2. A number of sheep driven.
A *drove* of sheep, or an herd of oxen, may be managed
by any noise or cry which the drivers shall accustom them
to. *South's Sermons.*

3. Any collection of animals.
The founts and seas, with all their finny *droves*,
Now to the moon in wavering morrice move. *Milton.*
4. A crowd; a tumult.
But if to fame alone thou do'st pretend,
The miser will his empty palace lend,
Set wide with doors, adorn'd with plated bras,
Where *droves*, as at a city-gate, may pass. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

DROVEN. *part.* from *drive*.
This is fought indeed;
Had we so done at first, we had *droven* them home
With clouts about their heads. *Shak. Anth. and Cleopatra.*
DROVER. *n. f.* [from *drive*.] One that fars oxen for sale, and
drives them to market.

The prince hath got your hero.
—I with him joy of her.
—Why, that's spoken like an honest *drover*; so they sell
bullocks. *Shakespeare's Much Ado about Nothing.*
The *drover* who his fellow *drover* meets,
In narrow passages of winding streets. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

DRO

DROUGHT. *n. f.* [*brugose*, Saxon; *dreuth*, Scottish.]

1. Dry weather; want of rain.
O earth! I will befriend thee more with rain
Than youthful April shall with all his showers;
In Summer's *drought* I'll drop upon thee still. *Sh. Tit. Andr.*
Great *droughts* in Summer, lasting 'till the end of August,
some gentle showers upon them, and then some dry weather,
portend a pestilent Summer the year following. *Bacon.*

To south the Persian bay,
And inaccessible th' Arabian *drought*. *Milton's Parad. Reg.*
As torrents in the *drowth* of Summer fall,
So perist man from death shall never rise. *Sandys.*

They were so learned in natural philosophy, that they
foretold earthquakes and storms, great *droughts*, and great
plagues. *Temple.*
In a *drought* the thirsty creatures cry,
And gape upon the gather'd clouds for rain. *Dryden.*

Upon a shower, after a *drought*, earthworms and land-
snails innumerable come out of their lurking places. *Rey.*
2. Thirst; want of drink.
His carcass, pin'd with hunger and with *drought*. *Milton.*
One whole *drought*
Yet scarce allay'd, still eyes the current stream,
Whose liquid murmur heard, new thirst excites. *Milt. P. L.*

DROUGHTINESS. *n. f.* [from *droughty*.] The state of wanting
rain.
DROUGHTY. *adj.* [from *drought*.]

1. Wanting rain; sultry.
That a camel, so patient of long thirst, should be bred in
such *droughty* and parched countries, where it is of such emi-
nent use for travelling over those dry and sandy deserts, where
no water is to be had, must be acknowledged an act of provi-
dence and design. *Ray on the Creation.*

2. Thirsty; dry with thirst.
If the former years
Exhibit no supplies, alas! thou must
With tasteless water wash thy *droughty* throat. *Phillips.*

To *DROWN*. *v. a.* [from *drunden*, below, German, *Skinner*,
from *drunen*, Saxon, *Mr. Lye*.]

1. To suffocate in water.
They would soon *drown* those that refused to swim down
the popular stream. *King Charles.*
When of God's image only eight he found
Snatch'd from the wat'ry grave, and sav'd from nations
drown'd. *Prior.*

2. To overwhelm in water.
Or so much as it needs
To dew the sovereign flower, and *drown* the weeds. *Shakes.*
Galleys might be *drown'd* in the harbour with the great
ordnance, before they could be rigged. *Knolles's History.*

3. To overflow; to bury in an inundation; to deluge.
Betwixt the prince and parliament we stand,
The barriers of the state on either hand:
May neither overflow, for then they *drown* the land. *Dry.*

4. To immerge; to lose in any thing.
Most men being in sensual pleasures *drown'd*,
It seems their souls but in their senses are. *Davies.*

5. To lose in something that overpowers or covers.
Who cometh next will not follow that course, however
good, which his predecessors held, for doubt to have his doings
drown'd in another man's praise. *Spenser on Ireland.*

To think that the brightness of the sun's body above doth
drown our discerning of the lesser lights, is a popular error.
Wotton's Architecture.

My private voice is *drown'd* amid the senate. *Add. Cato.*
Some aged man, who lives this act to see,
And who in former times remember'd me,
May say, the son, in fortitude and fame,
Outgoes the mark, and *drowns* his father's name. *Dryden.*

To *DROWN*. *v. n.* To be suffocated in the waters.
There be, that keep them out of fire, and yet was never
burn'd; that beware of water, and yet was never
drown'd. *Shakespeare's Schoolmaster.*

Methought what pain it was to *drown*!
What dreadful noise of waters in my ears!
What fights of ugly death within mine eyes! *Shakes. R. III.*
To *DROWSE*. *v. a.* [*droesen*, Dutch.] To make heavy with
sleep.

There gentle sleep
First found me, and with soft oppression seiz'd
My *drowz'd* senses uncontroll'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
To *DROWSE*. *v. n.*
1. To slumber; to grow heavy with sleep.
All their shape
Spangled with eyes, more numerous than those
Of Argus; and more wakeful than to *drowse*,
Charm'd with Arcadian pipe, the pastoral reed
Of Hermes, or his opiate rod. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. xi.*

2. To look heavy; not cheerful.
They rather *drowse'd*, and hung their eyelids down,
Slept in his face, and render'd such aspect
As cloudy men use to their adversaries. *Shakespeare, Henry VI.*
DROWSELY.